



BRIEFS:

iQMIS to be Implemented Next Month; National Housing Assignment Policy Assists in Determining Priority Occupants



An internet-based Quarters Management Information System (iQMIS) will be implemented in August. The online system will be made available for all applicable Indian Affairs managers for read-only viewing.

Throughout Indian Country, quarters managers/technicians will be able to input and view their own employee housing program data in real time.

iQMIS will eventually interface with FBMS, which is being implemented as a business management system across Indian Affairs in November.

As part of the iQMIS start-up, the National Housing Assignment Policy will establish instructions for field office managers to determine priority occupants among BIE, BIA and OJS employees for their location's employee housing. The occupant information will be entered into iQMIS.

Indian Affairs is one of 19 agencies that utilizes iQMIS for its employee housing.

Crosswalking Data Screens Show Progress Toward FBMS's November 2012 Implementation

Indian Affairs is now crosswalking data screens from FMIS to the new Facility Maintenance Management System (FMMS), which includes the proprietary software MAXIMO, as directed by the Department of the Interior. The conversion to FMMS is intended to meet federal requirements, enhance software functionality, and increase ease of use.

This IT project has distinct, yet related components: to complete the data conversion and interface with FBMS and to transition FMIS to MAXIMO for asset management and work orders, while re-purposing FMIS' legacy functionality for budget execution; program/project management and assessment/abatement, which are not currently available within MAXIMO.

Transition is scheduled to be completed this November.

School Construction Handbook Updated

OFMC is updating its 2007 school construction handbook and its approved standard design templates for BIE-funded schools. The goal is to keep the handbook and templates current with construction industry standards and to incorporate practical lessons learned during recent OFMC construction projects.

For instance, OFMC has encountered problems with unreliable power supply in some remote locations in Indian Country. The updated handbook will provide additional guidance for anticipating factors that contribute to HVAC system failures due to unpredictable electric power, complicated system specifications and programming, and the ability of school facilities staffs to operate and troubleshoot individual HVAC units and HVAC system controls.

New school designs will continue to be based on local geography and culture, on the enrollment guidelines found in the 2005 Education Space Criteria Handbook, and on building types, i.e., classrooms or dormitories.

Standardizing construction processes and materials has produced overall program cost savings, fostered sustainable structures, instilled the use of green building construction techniques, and created more predictable operations and maintenance forecasting.

Previous adjustments were made in 2009 when the handbook formally incorporated the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Design (LEED) School standards, which the Council established as a new LEED category.